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50X1

Country: Czechoslovakia

Subject: Individual Request for New Polio Drug

50X1

Date of Info.: End of May 53

1. [redacted] a request for 30 packages of 10 ampules of Pentatido, which he described as a drug against poliomyelitis developed by Parke-Davis. I have no doubt of the genuine nature of the request because I know that [redacted] was stricken with polio some four years ago. 50X1 50X1

2. When I inquired from Parke-Davis--without indicating the ultimate source of the inquiry--, I learned to my surprise that Pentatido is only in the clinical research stage and not available for sale. What is more, the drug is not yet listed in pharmaceutical catalogs, according to Parke-Davis.

3. It seems unusual to me that a private citizen of Czechoslovakia would have knowledge of such a new development in the pharmaceutical field. I would surmise that my friend had learned of Pentatido [redacted], who studies medicine in Czechoslovakia, presumably at Charles University. 50X1

4. [redacted] also stated in his letter that he would appreciate a shipment of gamma globulin if I should be unable to obtain Pentatido for him. This second request is not so strange as the US press has repeatedly reported about last year's large-scale gamma globulin tests. /These press reports, however, pointed out the limited preventive value of GG without claiming any therapeutic value for this product. Its use in the case of an individual infected years ago would appear more than doubtful./ 50X1

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